OMAHA. MONDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 24, 1888.

BURNED TO THE WATER'S EDGE

Total Destruction of a Large Mississippi River Steamer.

NEARLY FIFTY PEOPLE PERISH.

The Officers of the Steamer Warmly Praised By the Surviving Passengers for Their Bravery and Heroism.

The "Rate Adams" Burned. MEMPHIS, Dec. 23:-The passenger steamer Kate Adams burned this morning near Commerce, Miss., forty miles south of this city She was en route to Memphis and had about two hundred people aboard. The fire, which caught in some cotton near the forward end of the boilers, was discovered about 8 o'clock, The passengers were at breakfast and when the alarm was given, they all made a rush for the forward deck. At the time the steamer was about two hundred yards from the Mississippi side of the river, and her bow was at once headed for the shore. Pilot Joe Barton was on watch, and he remained he roleally at his post until she was safely landed. Harry Best, second clerk, who was scated at the table when the alarm was given, had brought all the ladies and children forward and assisted them ashore. Captain Mark R. Cheek, who was on the hurricane deck, remained there giving his commands until the stage plank was safely lowered. The fire by this time had spread all through the cabin, and he was compelled to retreat to the rear, and climbed over the rails and descended to the cabin. Here he found Chief Clerk Glanker, who had made an effort to save the money and papers of the steamer, which were in the safe. He managed to grab the money and had a narrow escape from death in the burning cabin. Captain Check assisted several passengers in securing life preservers, and when it was no longer possible for him to remain without being burned he, too, jumped into the river and swam ashore.

There were about twenty-five cabin pass engers who were saved, along with the white passengers. On the lower deck, howdeck passengers. Those who were cut off from escape from the bow were compelled to jump overboard to save their lives. The stem of the burning steamer had swung out into the river, and when an effort was made to launch the yawl it was capsized by the crowd which filled it, and many of its occupants were drowned. They were mostly colored men, but there were three or four women in the crowd. The lest, so far as can be learned, are as

follows: GEORGE CORBITT, third clerk, aged twenty nine years, who had launched the yawl and was trying to save the colored women on the

ANDREW REESE; OR JACKSON,

MONROE JACKSON,
JIM NELSON,
"SENATOR" COLEMAN,
HILLYARD HORE, of the colored cabin

LEE FINLEY,
FRANK WELLS.
In addition about fifteen deck passengers, four of whom were white men, were also drowned. In this list of unknown were three

colored women and their children. The burning steamer drifted away, after lying at the bank for twenty minutes, and floated down the river, her hull sinking at the head of Peters island, four miles below

The Kate Adams was owned by the Memphis & Vicksburg Packet company. She was built in 1882 and cost \$102,000. She was the finest and fastest steamer of her type on the finest and lastest steamer of her type on the river, and her owners this summer spent \$20,000 in repairing her. Her cargo con-sisted of 1,161 bales of cotton, 1,900 sacks of cotton seed, 87 bags of seed and a good list sundries. The cotton was consigned to Memphis merchants and was fully insured.

All the passengers and crew arrived at

Memphis this afternoon at 6 o'clock, having taken the Louisville, New Orleans and Texas railroad train at Robusonville, which station eight miles distant in the interior from where the disaster occurred.
Citizens of Commerce rendered the passen-

gers and crew every assistance in reaching Robinsonville, conveying them there in wagons and every conceivable vehicle that could be securred. There were 167 from the ill fated steamer that came to Memphis, Captain Cheek defraying the expenses of all those who did not have funds. The passengers and crew lost all their clothing and effects, and some made their escape to shore from the burning steamer endeshabille, but were provided with clothes by the kind citizens of

Three of the colored cabin crew who were rescued from the water died afterward. Their names appear in the list already given. The water being very cold, benumbed the limbs of those who jumped overboard, and to this is attributed the great loss of life. All speak in the highest terms of the coolness and prayery displayed by the officers Captain, clerks, pliots and engineers all re-mained at their posts until the last, and i was through their efforts and courage that the lady passengers were safely taken lady passengers were safely taken

Mr. John Woods Harris, who was a passenger, jumped from the stage plank before it had been lowered, and was internally in-jured. Mrs. Dr. Harris, of Laconia, also sustained a sprained ankle by falling from a cotton bale in descending from the cabin to

Colonel J. M. Hunter, of Louisville, who was a passenger of the ill fated Kate Adams, gives a thrilling account of his experience on given he was at breakfast and hastily re-paired to his stateroom to save his effects. By the time he had secured his value he found escape by way of the bow cut off by the flames, which spread with lightning-like rapidity. He saw at a plane, that it ard the steamer. When the nlarm was rapidity. He saw at a glance that it was to be death or swim, so he disrobed himself, secured a life-preserver and jumped over-board, and after struggling in the water for ten minutes succeeded in reaching the shore. He had nothing but his underclothes on, and secured clothing from those on shore. Colonel Hunter says that while he was in the rear of the cabin he saw a colored woman throw three children into the river and then jump in herself, and all four were growned.

Mrs. Harry Fields, a lady passenger, said to an Associated Press reporter, that she tried to jump ashore from the beam of the steamer, but failed and fell to the lower deck. A negro man, who was close behind her, followed her example, and, like her, failed to reach the shore and fell near her. The negro gathered her in his arms and carried her to the bank and thus saved her from being burned to death, as she was unable to move. Mrs. Fields is positive W. A. Cov-ington, a planter of Rosedale, Miss., per-

ished in the flames.

It is reported that a negro murderer, who was being brought back for trial, perished on board the steamer. He was handcuffed, and the officer in charge of him made his escape

and left the negro in a helpless condition, and he was burned to death.

The greatest excitement prevailed in Memphis when the first news of the disaster reached here. It came about noon in the shape of a private telegram from Robinsonville, and said 120 lives had been lost. Later accounts were more reassuring. It is impossible to definitely ascertain how many lives really were lost, but a conservative estimate places the number at not less than thirty-live. It may possibly reach fifty.

Prairie Fire. RATIS CITY, Dak., Dec. 23 .- A prairie fire started just southwest of here late yesterday and spread rapidly before a brisk northwest wind which was blowing. A large tract was soon burned over and much loss is feared. The damage cannot now be estimated. Many farm buildings are in the line of the fire.

BLOODY GROUND. Several More Lives Sacrificed in the

French-Eversole Fend.

LOUISVILLE, Ky., Dec. 22.- | Special Telerram to THE BEE.]-A terrible affray beween the French and Eversole factions oc curred a week ago yesterday at Hindman, the seat of Knox county. Hindman is 100 A VERY COMPLICATED AFFAIR. niles away from any railroad, and news of the affray reached here to-day. On a change of venue the case against Hen Franklin French, Bob Proffit, Anderson Coldiron and Tom Smith, alias "Red Mule," indicted by the Perry county grand jury for the assassole faction, and his friend, Martin Combs, had been taken from Perry county to Hindnan. French and all his friends were reeased on bond at Hindman. The French arty gathered there heavily armed. Many

smation of Joe Eversole, leader of the Everof the Eversole faction were also present, inluding John and Andrew Sloan, brothers, and lifelong friends of the Eversole party. Lewis Hays, Sid Hays and Anrew Hays, three brothers, and "Red Mule" Smith, members of the French party, were together. They met the Sioan prothers, and at once picked a quarrel with hom. The French party drew their pistols and drove the Sionns off the street at the uzzles of their weapons. Smith and the Hayses followed the Sloans until they reached a point where they had every ad-vantage. Smith and his companions at once opened fire upon the retreating Sloans. They took deadly aim and their bullets counted. At the first discharge John Sloan feil, mortally wounded. Andy was also hit several times, but he managed to keep his feet, although he was so weakened that he was barely able to run. Knowing they could soon overtake Andy, the members of the French party advanced to where John was lying bleeding to death. His body was filled with bullets, and his brother received

nan. Not the slightest attempt was made arrest them.

About a week preceding this two other witnesses against French and his compan-ions were killed, but the news of their deaths was not received until to-day. The two other victims were Richard Vance and a man whose name has not been learned. They were warm friends of the Eversoles. Riding along together in the edge of Perry county, they were shot from ambush and in-stantly killed.

he same treatment, both men dying within

As soon as this crime was done, all four of

he murderers slowly withdrew from Hind-

On the day following the murder of the Sloan boys, "Shooting Ike" Combs, French's first lieutenant, went to the home of Hop Davis, in the edge of Breathitt county. Combs picked a quarrel and was instantly killed, as Davis filled him with buckshot. This was the eighteenth man killed in the feud. Both factions are up in arms, and the judge has refused to attempt to try the case unless he is protected by militia.

ARTEMUS WARD'S WILL, It is Declared Valid by a New York

Court. New York, Dec. 23.—Charles F. Browne (Artemus Ward), having left property in this country, and also legatees here, Judge Barrett, of the supreme court, yesterday signee a decree establishing the validity of the will, in order that the bequests might be made. The will was executed on February 20, 1867, at Southampton, England, where the humorist died. After making a few minor bequests the residue of the property is left for life to the testator's mother. After her death the greater portion of the principal is directed to be devoted to founding an asylum for worn out printers in the United States. At the death of his mother the testator directed that the children of John G. Gerry, of Waterford, Me., should receive \$1,000 each. Hence the application to have the will probated here, after it had been duly probated in England.

probated in England The Anarchists Did Not Meet. CHICAGO, Dec. 23 .- The reported anarchist secting this afternoon did not take place. The hall which was to be used is controlled by the Plasterers union, and the renting of it to the Arbeiter Bund was done without their knowledge by the janitor. The union this morning sent a committee to Chief of Police Hubbard to arrange a course of action, ssuring him the plasterers had no sympathy with the anarchists. Mr. Kraft, attorney for the bund, was present, and to him Chief Hubbard reiterated his determination that the meeting must not be held. The plaster-er's committee then returned to the hall and er's committee then returned to the hall and notified the janitor net to open it. About 2 o'clock forty'or fifty members of the Arbeiter bund, under the leadership of Albert Carrlin, arrived and demanded to know why the hall was not opened. Their curiosity was gratified by a lieutenant of police, who was present. Their attorney then advised them to make no further attempt to hold the meeting, saying the action of the police was just. ing, saying the action of the police was just what they had been wanting to help out

heir case in court. They soon dispersed. Late this evening it is learned that mem-bers of the Arbeiter bund outwitted the po-ice, after all. When they left the vicinity of the Plasterer's hall in accordance with a pre arranged plan, they went to a quiet saloor West Randolph street and held their ecting, perfecting an organization. Before adjournment some members proposed the names of Mayor Roche, Chief of Police Hubbard and Inspector Bonfield as honorary members of the bund. The proposition was manimously carried.

Murder and Suicide.

NEW YORK, Dec. 23.-A man named Henry D. Schoomaker shot his young wife some time last night, twice in the head and once in the breast, and then killed himself instantly with a bullet through the brain. The two were found in their flat in Brooklyn this morning in bed, clasped in each other's arms, covered with blood. She was still breathing but he was dead. He was but twenty-three years old, she a year younger, and they had a fourteen months old baby, who was away from the house at the time. The wife will probably die. Insanity seems to be the only explanation of the deed. Colonel Schoomaker, the father of the young man, received the first intimation of the deed in the following note this noon: "Mamma and Henry come down as soon as possible. If you find the doors locked, force the front parlor door. HARRY."

the front parlor door.

This note had been left at the district manager's effice Saturday evening, with instructions to deliver it at 11 o'clock the next morning. Instantly, when the note was received, a member of the family went to the flat, where they saw what is told above. Colonel maker said that his son had been sick for a few days and his mind must have been

Railway Conductors in Session. PROVIDENCE, R. I., Dec. 23.-Three huntred members of the Grand Order of Railway Conductors attended the union meeting to-day. Grand Chief Conductor Calvin L. Wheaton, of Cedar Rapids, Ia.; Governor Tatt and Superintendent Gardiner, of the New York, Pennsylvania & Ohio road, delivered addresses. A business meeting of the several local divisions was then hold. Routine business, mainly of a private nature, then followed. The next annual meeting will be held in May next.

Appointed General Manager. Sr. Louis, Dec. 23.-The Globe-Democrat announces that W. B. Doddridge, superintendent of the Missouri Pacific lines in Kansas and Nebraska, has been appointed general manager of the St. Louis, Arkansas & Texas railroad. Officials of the latter road decline to verify the report, and Mr. Doddidge himself is reported as saying he knows

nothing about the matter. Steamship Arrivals. At New York-The Ohio, from Liverpeol; Lachampagne, from Havre; the Canada, from London; the Alexandria, from Medi-

terraneun ports.

Rumor That Harrison Will Call

Sherman to the Cabinet.

An Army Officer's Besetting Sin-Curious Plight of Two Wisconsin Members-Elect-River and Harbor Bill.

WASHINGTON BUREAU THE OMAHA BRE,) 513 FOURTHENTH STREET, WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 23. A gentleman, who ought to know, if any ody does, and whose name would give the story credence anywhere, assured me this afternoon that he had positive knowledge that General Harrison had decided to ap point Senator Sherman secretary of state. He did not give me the source of his information, but I could easily guess it. He told me, also, that there would be no other cannet

officer taken from the senate. A letter over the name of Senator Quay, which was telegraphed to the eastern papers from Pargo, last night, is a cheap fake, and the senator declines to take any notice of it, not even to give it a contradiction.

A COMPLICATED CASE. There is a curious state of things at the arsenal near this city. Captain John F. Mount, of the Third artillery, has been in the habit of drinking too much_liquer, and Colonel Gibson, commanding that regiment, threatened, not long ago, to have him hauled up before the court martial for drunkenness. Captain Mount promised reformation, as he had repeatedly done before, and as a guarantee of good faith wrote out his resignation which he authorized Colonel Gibson to hand to the secretary of war in case he should ever be found intoxicated again. According to the agreement, Colonel Gibson handed the resignation to the secretary of war on the day after Thanksgiving. It was forwarded through the regular channels and was accepted by the president. The first Captain Mount knew of Colonel Gibson's action was when he was relieved from duty. He then called on the secretary and the president and protested, claiming that he had not been intoxicated; that he had not violated his pledge, and that Colonel Gibson had acted in bad faith in presenting his resignation. Now comes a question that has never been raised in the war department before. Captain Mount's resignation having been accepted, he is no longer an officer in the army, and he cannot be restored by the president, because the latter cannot reconsider his final act in aclatter cannot reconsider his final act in accepting the resignation. The only thing that can be done is to send Mount's nomination to the senate and have it confirmed. On the other hand, Captain Mount, in order to do this, must show that Colonel Gibson has done him an injustice, and that makes it necessary for him to file charges against the latter officer and have them tried before a court martial. court martial.

NOT NATURALIZED CITIZENS.

Somehow the democratic officials of the house are not half so emphatic in claiming a democratic majority in the next house as they were a few weeks ago, in spite of the fact that the four districts in West Virginia seem to have been stolen by them. The suc-cess of the republican candidate in Califormia, who seemed to have been defeated at one time, and the assurance that the delegation from that state will contain five republicans, was a bad setback for them in the be-ginning of the week. Now they have dis-covered that without resorting to the fraudulent methods which they inaugurated in several of the southern states, the repub-licans will be enabled, possibly, to prevent the scating of the only two who claim election in The point raised by the wankee Herald, that these two democrats, Barwig and Bricker, are not entitled to seats, because they are neither native, naturalized, nor the sons of naturalized citizens, is said to be well taken, and republicans are determined that the two men shall not be sworn until they have produced satisfactory proof that they are citizens of the United States. The democrats are trying to offset this serious drawback to the seating of the Wisconsin men, by citing the case of Representative White, of Indiana, who had to fight for his seat in spite of the fact that he fought for the union. But they forgot that nearly every member of their party voted against White, so that there is no sentimental reason why the Wisconsin men should not stand why the Wisconsin men should not stand solely upon their merits. The idea that the naturalized German-Americans will oppose the refusal to grant certificates to these men is absurd, as all naturalized citizens are equally interested in seeing that all members

of congress are citizens of the country.
RIVER AND HARBOR I LL. Opinion is divided as to the course of the senate towards the river and harbor bill when that measure shall reach the upper house of congress. It is probable that it will pass the house next week, but there is under-stood to be a tacit understanding on the part of the members of the senate committee on commerce that no bill of the kind shall be reported from that body at this session, owing to the great size of the appropriations contained in the bill approved last fall There are several important public works in course of construction which will suffer by delayed appropriations, and some effort will be made to provide for these on the sundry civil bill, but owing to the determination of some members, who have "pork in the barrel," as they express it, to oppose every thing of this kind until they come in, it is not likely that any appropriations will be made for river and harbor works if the senate committee refuses to report the regular

THE WASHINGTON POST SOLD Mr. Stilson Hutchins, who has been trying for several months to sell his paper. The Washington Post, has at last found a cus-tomer in Mr. James Elverson, the proprietor of the weekly story paper known as the Sat-urday Night, and the little weekly for chil dren, known as Golden Days. Mr. Elverson is a man of great wealth, and has had a residence in Washington for some years. It is understood that he will employ an entirely new staff of editors and reporters.

NATIONAL BANKS.
The members of the house committee on banking and currency are not a little dis-couraged and disgusted over their failure to impress either house with the necessity of legislation on the banking business. The Wilkins bill, providing that national banks may have a circulation to the full par value of the bonds deposited with the treasurer, although reported unanimously from the committee, placed upon the calendar, made a special order, taken up and discussed two or three times, and now resting as unfinished business, cannot receive action. Chairman Wilkins himself says that there is so much prejudice against legislation which in any way favors national banks and that there are so many demagogues in the house who con-tinually misrepresent the truth in regard to the banking business, that it is next to an impossibility to secure any action. The Wilkins bill would put into circulation a good many million dellars more money, and would therefore have a tendency to reduce the interest which borrowers must now pay. The bill proposes to give the braks 10 per cent more circulation without having to pay any thing for it, and on this ground the anti-bank men in the house howi. A member of the committee said, of the probabilities of legislation upon the national banking question by the next house: "There will be some im-portant legislation, and there is no doubt of it. If we intend to maintain our present system of requiring national banks to issue circulating notes and secure them by a deposit of United States bonds, there must be new bonds issued, for the high premium de-manded by the present issue of bonds and the flactuation of the market make the circulation of bank notes very undesirable, and the banks are reducing their circulation to the minimum. The credit of a national bank

IS THERE ANYTHING IN IT? is based upon the credit of the government, and there cannot be any excuse for refusing to allow the banks to issue circulation for the full par value of the bonds deposited. The old excuse of only giving 90 per cent of circulation has been wiped out. If the value of the bonds depreciate it will be on account of the depreciation of the government's credit, and therefore the bank notes themselves will in the same degree depreciate. It is my impression that the future feeleral banking twas will either teermit the

preciate. It is my impression that the future federal banking laws will either permit the deposite of a nominal sum with the treasurer and do away with circulation or will provide for the issuance of new bonds and circulation to the full par value of the bonds deposited. There is no money in the connection national banks have with the federal government. The only reason a bank is made national is be-cause it is considered safer, having all the safeguards of the federal government

safeguards of the federal government thrown about it.

BELMONT'S MISSION.

A New York democrat in the house says that Perry Beimont goes to Spain on a diplomatic mission, which is intended to occupy a considerable period of time. He is to attempt the negotiation of a new commercial treaty and to patch up our shipping relations with Spain. He says that when General Harrison goes into the white house Mr. Belmont will not any more than have gotten well started at his work, and pressure will be brought to bear to have him retained till his negotiations are completed. He anticipates that Mr. Belmont may be in his nosition a year or more after the 4th of March.

A SCHEME TO EMBARRASS HARRISON.

A SCHEME TO EMBARRASS HARRISON. One of Mr. Cleveland's appointees in the postoffice department who has charge of a number of employees, says: "During the first three weeks which followed the election, there was an arrangement attempted in se-ercey whereby more than half of the men appointed by President Cleveland and not pro-tected by civil service rules, were to resign their positions on the 4th of March and walk out of their offices. Thousands of post-masters were to be in the scheme, and were to vacate their offices promitly on that day. There were a number of chiefs of divisions in the departments here who were in the lead of the scheme, and if it had worked as well during the second as the first week of the movement, it would have been a success The idea was to embarrass President Har-rison to the fullest extent at the beginning of his administration. You will remember that this kind of an arrangement was talked of at the beginning of this administration, and the republicans were to go out in a body. After a large number of men had promised to comply with the programme, a few of them weakened, and the whole business fell through.

Penny S. Heath.

THE CLEARANCE RECORD. The Financial Transactions of the

Past Week. Boston, Mass., Dec. 23.—[Special Tele: gram to the Beg.]—The following table compiled from dispatches to the Post from the managers of the leading clearing-houses of the United States, shows the gross exchanges for the week ended December 23, 1888, with rates per cent of increase or decrease as compared with the amounts for the corresponding week in 1887:

CITIES.	CLEARINGS.	ncrease.	ecrease.
New York	26 96,546,303	25.1	
Boston	88,331,473		
Philadelphia	74,490,478	91 9	
Chicago	66,830,000		
St. Louis	21,450,960		
San Francisco	14,972,711		12
New Orleans.	14,422,463	99. 7	
Baltimore	13,144,364		
Pittsburg	12,207,685	5.8	225
Cincinnati	10,962,300	1.0	9.
Cincinnati	10,982,000	14.4	***
Kansas City	10,223,965	41.0	
Louisville	6,214,026	10 0	
Providence	6,014,740		
Milwaukee	4,665,000		
Minneapous	4,850,488		
St. Paul	4,229,843		
Detroit	4,557,428	7.1	
Omaha	3,785,381	36.2	
Cleveland	3,878,777		
Richmond	2,024,063	39.2	10000
Denver	2,835,038	27.1	224
Indianapons	2,086,446	*******	12.3
Memonis	3,616,727 2,717,241	17.2	
Columbus	2,717,241	14.8	444
Duluth	2,623,271	*******	23.
Hartford	1,628,933	3.8	
New Haven	1,117,657		0.
Peoria	1,274,675		8.
St. Joseph	1,520,522 1,372,343		6.
Norfolk	1,372,343	7.2	
Portiang	1,161,493	24.9	
Springfield	1,238,506		
Worcester	1,409,123		
Lowell	898,530		35.3
Los Angeles	752,240	19.5	
Syracuse	727,690	27.5	
Wichtta	681,493		11.3
Grand Rapids	560,836	0.4	
Торека	338,136	15.4	
Total Outside New York	\$1,030,910,258	21.3	
Outside New York	394,363,595	15.1	

SWINDLED BY A SMOOTH YOUTH.

An Illinois Farmer Loses \$22,000 Through a New York Sharper. OTTAWA, Ill., Dec. 23. - Lester Taylor, a wealthy farmer residing near Millington, has been swindled out of \$22,000 by a smooth tougued young man, who was arrested in New York this week. The youth pretended to be the only son of wealthy and distinguished parents, and said that his guardian was attempting to cheat him out of heritance. He wanted to learn farming, as heritance. His was mainly in lands. His his wealth was mainly in lands. confederate in New York, pretending to be his attorney, sent for money from time to time to prosecute the suit against the alleged guardian, and without security the farmer loaned the youth \$1,000 at a time until he

The Baby Dead in Her Arms. NEW YORK, Dec. 23.-Mary McIntyre, a

finally disappeared. He has been arrested

in New York.

young unmarried woman, arrived at Castle Garden yesterday on the steamship Egypt from Liverpool. She carried her fourmonths old baby in her arms. She was detained, to be sent to Ward's island. The at tention of Dr. Schultz, who stood near the woman was attracted by the extreme pallor of the baby's face. Placing his hand on the child's face he looked inquiringly at the woman and said: "How long has your baby

een sick!"
"It's not sick at all sir," the mother an swered; "It's been asleep for two hours."
"The child's dead, my good woman. Is it possible you did not know it! It has evidently been dead for several hours." The woman started back in affright, and would have let the baby fall if the doctor had not caught it in his arms. An examination closed the fact that the baby had died of ex-

posure. A Dynamite Explosion. Wheeling, W, Va., Dec. 23.—This afternoon a dynamite magazine at Mount Pleasant, O., exploded, wrecking windows and injuring buildings. The shock was felt and the report heard here and all around. It is reported that several persons were killed. Details are meagre and a full report will be

impossible before Monday.

There were, in the magazine, 210 kegs of powder and ten cases of dynamite. A fourteen year old boy, Charles Gleck, with two other boys, went in smoking. The other boys ran before the explosion. Young Gleck was literally blown to atoms. The other boys were badly hurt. Seventeen men were badly injured. Nearly every house within a mile was blown to pieces, and farther away, severely injured. The names of the injured and killed can not be obtained to-night. A hundred yards away were thirty tons of dy-namite in a case, which was not exploded.

Shook Up the Passengers. ROCHESTER, N. Y., Dec. 23.-The New York Central express train was derailed at Churchville to night and a number of passengers shaken up.

The Weather Indications. Nebraska and Iowa: Rain, turning into snow, colder, winds becoming northwesterly. Dakota: Pair, colder, northerly winds.

THE SUPREME COURT OF IOWA.

Just Half a Century Since Its Organization.

INTERESTING REMINISCENCES.

The First Session held In a Small Room of a Private Residence at Burlington - The Present Magnificent Quarters,

Organized Fifty Years Ago. DES MOINES, Ia., Dec. 23 .- | Special to THE BEE |- The supreme court adjourned its announcement term yesterday, and will meet for the hearing of cases early next

month. The fact that it is just half a century since the supreme court of towa was organized, has called attention anew to the history and standing of the court. Perhaps no man in the state is more competent to discuss the history of Iowa institutions than Prof. T. S. Parvin, of Cedar Rapids, Ite has given special attention to the collection of historical data of various kinds, and is enabled in this way to furnish a vast amount of interesting information. In a recent interview he recalled the organization of the court fifty years ago, and miludes to it with the more interest from the fact that he was himself admitted to the bar at that term of court. It convened, says Prof. Parvin, at Burlington, November 12, 1838. That place had been selected as the capital of the territory by Governor Lucas. It was then a little town, withou ta church or school house or a public or private hall. So the officers of the court secured permission for it to meet in a dwelling house, in the sitting-room, a small one about sixteen feet square. It was a raw and chill November day when the three gentlemen who had met to organize the first supreme court of Iowa gathered around the table in that little room. Each of those men was destined to take high Each of those men was destined to take high rank in the world hereafter, and exert a great influence upon the affairs of the young territory and future state. The chief jus-tice was Charles Mason, of Burlington, who had graduated at West Point with line scholarship, and then turned to the law. Thomas S. Wilson, the second member of the court, had come from Ohio but two or three years before, and settled at Dubuque. He had won great success in his short residence in Iowa, great success in his short residence in lowa, and was looked upon as very worthy of a place on the bench. The third member was Joseph Williams, appointed from Pennsylvania, and so popular with everybody that he was called by everyone "Joe" without regard to the dignities of his position. The gentlemen were aged thirty-one, thirty-five and thirty seven respectively, and composed the first territorial supreme court. The United first territorial supreme court. The United States marshal for Wisconsin, before Iowa was taken out. Isaac Van Allen, of Burlington, was the United States marshal for Wisconsin, before Iowa was taken out. Isaac Van Allen, of Burlington, was the United States district attorney. The

was the Unite! States district attorney. The court appointed Thornton Bayless, of Burlington, cierk, and Charles Weston, of Davenport, reporter. Van Allen shortly after died, and President Van Buren appointed Colonel Watson to succeed him.

So much for the personnel of the court itself. The usual formalities over, the court announced that it was ready to admit attorneys, in waiting and dispose of the only case neys in waiting and dispose of the only case before it—an appeal. This was a criminal case, the territory of Iowa against somebody who had been convicted of stealing a rifle. There were twenty lawyers waiting to be admitted to the court at its first session, fifty years ago. They were the following: William B. Conway, secretary of the territory; W. H. Starr, H. W. Starr, J. W. Grimes, David Rorer, M. D. Browning, S. W. Woods, Isaac Van Allen, all of Burlington, except Isaac van Allen, all of Burington, except Conway, who was from Davenport; Philip Viele and Alfred Rich, of Fort Madison; G. W. and J. B. Teas, of Mt. Pleasant; S. C. Hastings, Stephen Whitner, R. P. Lowe, and I. C. Day, of Bloomington, now Musca-tine; Stephen Hempstead and B. R. Pe-trikin of Dubugue; Charles Weston of trikin, of Dubuque; Charles Westen, of Davenport, and T. S. Parvin, then of Bur-lington. Of that number, which included fifteen statesmen of high standing in the state and nation, but three men survive— Hastings, now in Portland, Ore., Weston in Philadelphia and Parvin in Cedar Rapids Such was the first court. The court of to

day, in its present surroundings, is a quite different body. It meets in the elegant chamber in the new capitol, with its imported frescoes for the ceiling, its soft deep carpet to tread upon, the magnificent carved ma-hogony bar, and all the other appointments which wealth tastefully expended can sup ply. The present quarters of the lowa su preme court are pronounced by good judges to be the finest in the country. Instead of three the court now consists of five members of whom Judge Seevers is chief justice, his term and office expiring with this year. Each judge has an opportunity to be chief justice, if he serves his full term, as that distinction comes by rotation to each member of the court in the last year of his term. Judge Reed, the congressman-elect from the Ninth district, has not yet resigned, as he wants to have a taste at least of the honor of being chief justice, and as next year (1889) would be his year for that place, he will hold on until the January term of court, over which he will preside. That term will see for the first time, Judge Granger sitting on the bench, he having been elected at the last election to succeed Judge Seevers, court now is located permanently at the itol. Each judge has a room assigned him there, and he can sleep there if he chooses, and stay in the building all the time, except to go out for his meals. Each of the terms

the state house. It is very complete in re-ports and text books, and ranks fourth or fifth in the United States in this respect.

of court brings a large number of lawyers from all over the state, and they come also

frequently to consult the fine law library in

But Few Soldiers Among Them. DES MOINES, Ia., Dec. 23. - [Special to THE BEE. |-Some time ago Colonel Consigner, department commander of the G. A. R., for Iowa, decided that the old veterans who might belong to the G. A. R. and be found among the evicted settlers on the river ands, ought to be looked after especially by their comrades. So he wrote to the commander of the G. A. R. post at Fort Dodge. asking him to find out the names of all the old soldiers, who had been evicted see if any needed assistance, and After a thorough investigation he finds that there are very few union soldiers among the number, and, to his sur-prise, finds a larger number of ex-confedthan union veterans. It was not suspected that so many ex-rebels had come north to Iowa to live, but there are evidently a good many in the state.

Prison Notes.

Anamosa, Ia., Dec. 21.—[Special to The Bee.]—Between Christmas and New Year's day Warden Barr, of the Anamosa peni tentiary, expects to go to Mt. Pleasant for twenty-two criminal insane inmates now in the hospital there, who will hereafter be kept in the building, now about completed, for that class at Anamosa. Two will also be sent from Independence, and three or four from the prison at Ft. Madison.

There are now 227 convicts in the prison.
A year ago the number was 289, a decrease

of 62. Two years ago at this time there were 316, nearly 100 more than at the present time. The largest number on the rolls at any one time in the history of the institution was in April, 1886, when there were 326 men and women in durance. The decrease at Ft. Madison is in about the same proportion.

Will Have a Reunion.

DES MOINES, Ia., Dec. 23.- [Special to THE BEE. |-When the Iowa sheriffs met here the other day it was found that several of the

party had belonged to the Thirty-ninth Iowa infantry, but had never had a reunion since the regiment was mustered out at the close of the war. The regiment was organized in 1862 in the counties surrounding this city, and Hon, H. J. B. Cummings, of Winterset, afterwards member of congress from this district, was the first colonel. He resigned and Colonel Redfield of Dallas county, succeeded him and was killed at Atlanta Pass, in October, 1864. The regiment belonged to the fourth division of the differenth army corps, under Logan. The survivors who were here last week decided to hold a reunion hereafter, and they invite all former members of the regiment to correspond with the secretary, John Shanley, of this city. It is probable that that a permanent associa-tion of survivors will soon be formed.

Mes. Diggle Acquitted.

Clarion, Ia., Dec. 23.—Mrs. Bertha Digde, who has been on trial here some days, charged with poisoning her husband, was acmitted to day. When the verdict was renlered Mrs. Diggle swooned and is now confined to nor bed, completely unstrung from nervous reaction.

Ended Marital Troubles by Suicide DES MOINES, Dec. 23.-Mrs. John Stone, esiding near Albion, who had her husband arrested Thursday for beating her and then sued him for divorce yesterday, drowned herself in the river Friday night. She was the mother of six children.

BUYING STREET RAILWAYS.

A Syndicate Negotiating For St. Louis and Little Rock Roads. St. Louis, Mo., Dec. 23.-A New York syndicate is negetiating for the entire southern and southwestern street railway system of this city. The lines involved in the deal are the People's and the Union Depot, and the syndicate is said to be represented by the banking house of Newcomb Bros., New York. The property has been thoroughly examined, and it is reported that an offer has been made that is now under consideration by Presidents Scullin and Green, of the two railways. The roads have valuable franchises and are doing a profitable business A change of motor is contemplated on both

LITTLE ROCK, Ark., Dec. 23.—The Chicago syndicate that purchased the street ruilway system in Memphis and St. Louis are negotiating for the Little Rock street railway. A sale is likely to be made shortly.

Sparks From the Caple. LONDON, Dec. 23.—John Bright sat up in his chair half an hour to-day.

London, Dec. 23.—Advices from Mosam-bique say the Portugese defeated Borgas on the Upper Zambesi.

Rome, Dec. 24.—The chamber of deputies yesterday, by a vote of 175 to 32, passed a bill authorizing a credit of 145,000,000 lire for de-ZANZIBAR, Dec. 23.-The sultan has issued

decree proclaiming that murderers shall forfeit their lives and thieves shall lose their left hands. BRUSSELS, Dec. 23 .- Official dispatches to

the government confirm the report of the ar-rival of Stanley and Emin Pasha on the Arunhimi river. London, Dec. 23.-Lawrence Oilphant, a well known writer, died this afternoon at Twickenham. The cause of death was

ancer of the lungs. SUAKIM, Dec. 23 .- Arab deserters say there is a strong force of rebels at Handoub, and many bodies of natives killed in the recent fight are being conveyed to that village. ZANZIBAR, Dec. 23 .- Owing to the protest of the British representative here, the sultan has cancelled his order for the wholesale

execution of criminals. The German warship, Leipsic, has cap-tured another show, with 140 slaves.

Burglary of a Shoe Store. THE BEE, |- Thieves broke into the Bankrupt shoe store last night and carried of about \$200 worth of goods. A gang has been working the town for the past month. There is hardly a store that has not been visited. The police have not yet been able to get any clew to them.

His Team Ran Away.

Grand Island, Neb., Dec. 22.-|Special to The Bee. J-C. P. Hargenson, a farmer living about nine miles north of Grand Island. was thrown from his wagon and seriously injured while going home from town yesterday. His team was frightened, and became anmanageable, running away and throwing him to the ground- He was discovered soon after by a neighbor, who picked him up and carried him home. His left arm was broken and he also sustained internal injuries,

School Teacher Exonerated. Cheighton, Dec. 23.—[Special to The Bee.]—Considerable feeling has been excited here recently with regard to the public school. Two or three parties have taken it upon themselves to criticise the actions of the principal of the school, and through the papers to cast insinuations upon him which were injurious. To-day, however, the school board came out with a paper, signed by the full board, completely exonerating the

ipal from any blame in the matters re-Arrested While at Church.

MINNEAPOLIS, Minn., Dec. 23.- | Special Telegram to The Bee, |-There was no little surprise among the congregation at the Seventh Day Advent church on Fourth avenue south and Lake street when Inspector John Hoy walked in during the service there yesterday morning and arrested a prominent member, J. W. Robbins, Mr. Robbins deals in dirt and has an office in the Boston block. At church he became ac-quainted with Catharine Bernstein and she ntrusted her little property to him to be handled as he thought for her best interest. But after a time the trusting old lady found out that Robbins could give no account satis factory to herself of a certain sum of \$125 in rusted to him, and yesterday she caused h arrest on a charge of embezziement. Rob-bins waived examination in the municipal court, and was held to the grand jury in \$200 bonds, which were furnished.

The Proposition Was Accepted. TOPEKA, Kan., Dec. 23 .- [Special Telegram to THE BEE.]-The reduction of 10 per cent recently made by the Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe railroad in the salaries of office ials and employes of that system, did not extend to train men, but it is learned to-day that the conductors of the entire system have voluntarily submitted a proposition to the management of the railway, that they are ready and willing to assume, without extra pay, such additional duties and responsibili-ties in the bandling of the train service as will enable the company to make a reduction of fully 10 per cent in the expense of this de-partment. The proposition has been ac-cepted and the new arrangement goes into effect about January 1.

Why the Tascott Reward Was Raised. Carcago, Ill., Dec. 23.—The reason why Mrs. Snell raised the reward for the capture of William Tascott, the murderer of her husband, from \$20,00) to \$50,000, is because it has been discovered that the fugitive fled with trust deeds and notes aggregating in value nearly \$500,000. These papers, which were stolen from the sate in the Sneil house be fore the murder, are of such value to the es tate that the administrator is unable to trace the hundreds of loans old man Snell made before his death. It is said that the widow will ultimately increase the reward

Killed His Wife. Synacuse, N. Y., Dec. 23.-To night Wil l'am Crossley shot and killed his wife, and then blew out his brains with a revolver.

Jualousy.

SEVERAL BLOODY BATTLES

Fought Between Contending Chief. tains in the Samoan Islands.

THE CAUSE OF THE CONFLICT

Said to Be the Action of the German Government in Trying to Force an Unpopular King on the People.

Latest Reports From Samon.

SANFRANCISCO, Dec. 23.—A special corres-condent of the Associated Press at Apia, amoa, writes under date of December 7: Since last advices, two battles of importance and numerous skirmishes have taken place between the forces of Malieton-Mataafa and Tamaese, the rebel chief, and pretended king. About 120 men have been killed and 150 wounded. The state of affairs seems due o the continued action of the Germans, who nsist that Tamaese shall be king, although we thirds of the people have elected Malietoa-Mataafa as their choice, while the Germans oppose him, knowing he would not

onsent to their supremacy on the island. On the afternoon of November 6, Mataafa's army began an attack on Tamaese's stockade in the bush, and after a sharp fight the rebels were driven out and up the side of the mountain, where they threw up a stockade. They were again driven out from here. Tamaese's loss is two killed and twelve wounded, and Mataafa's four killed and fifteen wounded. Mataafa's wounded were taken to Apia, where British Consul Coetlogan, United States Vice Consul Blaclock, Captain Leary of the United States steamer Adams, and Captain Pelly, of the British steamer Lizard, erected hospital tents in front of the British consulate for the accommodation of the wounded, notice was also sent that Tamasese's wounded would be cared for, but none of these were brought to the hospital tents. being taken to Tamasese's fort on the hill where their wounds were looked after by

surgeons from the German man-of-war. The United States Steamer Nipsie, Captain Mullen, arrived here November 7, to relieve the Adams. November 10. the German steamer Lubeck arrived from Sidney, bringing Dr. Huaghe, the new German consul, to relieve Consul Becker. A schooner, armed by the Germans, continued to make daily trips from Afia to Saluafata, carrying ammunition for the use of Tamasese's men, Branches, the German who is the rebel

king's adviser, giving it out to the rebel sol-liers in large quantities. November 15, the German man of-war Adtler appeared off the harbor and the German onsul came ashore and demanded that Mataafa comply with the German's order to leave his encampments, on account of alleged depredations, which Matanfa denied. leged depredations, which Matanfa denied. He said no one could regret the war more than himself, but he aid not intend to stop fighting. All he desired was that foreign nations should not interfere, but allow the Samoans to settle the trouble themselves. The following day a meeting of the German, American and British consuls was held, but was devoid of results, the Germans insisting upon unholding Tannasse.

was devoid of results, the Germans insisting upon upholding Tamasese.

In the afternoon of the 19th the opposing forces had a sharp fight at Saluafata, Matania's men driving the rebels out of two forts. A number of Tamasese's men were killed and wounded, and Matania lost five killed and eight wounded. The German gunboat Eber arrived November 21, and the next day proceeded to Saluafata, where she will be day proceeded to Saluafata, where she will be stationed some time. The Nipsic followed her and will also remain temporarily at Saluafata. Immediately on the arrival of the Eber, she sent ashore a notification to Mataafa's men to leave German ground before the following day, or they would be forcibly driven away, and also ordering them not to attempt to pass over German lands. Mataafa's men having gone up the coast after capturing the forts, found themselves unable under this order, to return and Tamaseses is once more in possession of the forts. The Germans claimed large tracts of ands, said to belong to the Samoans. On this the German consul instructed the cap tain of the Eber to fire upon any of Matanfa's men who ventured upon it. Tamaseses, however, was given free range of this ground, and notified that he would be pro-

tected by the Eber.

November 27, Captain Leary, of the United States steamship Adams, sent a letter to the captain of the Eber, protesting against his action, and adding he was not aware that any foreign powers had acquired territorial rights in Samoa, and any nterference with either of the war parties rould be regarded as an unjusticable act of estility. No reply was received to this

On the afternoon of November 26 Tama, sese's men came out to meet Mataafa's forces and were repulsed with the loss of several killed and many wounded. The morning of the following day an attack was began by Matanfa's men on Tamasese's fort, which he had built in three sections behind a spiendidly constructed stockade. The fight lasted from early morning until dark, and when it ceased Mataafa's men had secured possession of sections 2 and 3 of the big fort, while Tamasese's party was still in possession of the first, or strongest section. The two sections captured have been taken and retaken five times and the laughter on both sides has been fearful. Matanfa's loss was 55 killed and a great number wounded, many fatally. Of the killed, 36 had been beheaded by Tamasese's men. Five high chiefs were among the killed. Tamasese had about fifty killed and many wounded. It is a matter of much diffi-ulty to ascertain his exact loss, as none but Germans are allowed to visit Tamasese's stronghold, and the Germans are not on speaking terms with Americans or English. Mataafa's wounded were taken to Afia, where they were tenderly cared for by sur-geons from British and American war vessels, aided by the wife of the British consul, whose ceaseless efforts to aleviate the sufferings of the wounded, cheited much admira-tion. Since this battle, no lighting of any importance has taken place. King Mataafa and his people are very anxious to have the islands either annexed by the United States, or have a protectorate established, even if it be only temporary.

Robbed and Killed an Old Soldier. DAYTON, Ohio, Dec. 23 .- Shortly after dark ast evening, Theodore Trampenau, aged eventy years, an inmate of the National Military home, was found murdered near the gates of the home. Trampenan drow \$90 pension yesterday. When found his pockets were empty. Another soldler was robbed this evening near the spot by a negro. The negro is believed to be the murderer of Transpensu, who was killed by a heavy blow on the forehead.

An Ex Pol-ceman Suicides. Kansas City, Dec. 23. - Ex Captain of Poce Charles Ditsch was found dead this morning in the Union countery, lying on his daughter's grave, with a gnastly wound in his head, while a murderous looking revolver told the rest of the story. He had charge of the funds of the Police Relief association and the suicide is supposed to be

Attended Church. INDIANAFOLIS, Ind., Dec. 23. - General and The evening was spent at home, no

Mrs. Harrison, accompanied by their guest, ex-Senator Saunders, attended divine services this morning at the First Presbyterian one but the family and visiting relatives ing present. During the holiday week General Harrison will suspend his afternoon

due to his being short in his accounts.